

Husband: **JOSEPH GROVER¹**

Born: Circa 1652 Gravesend, New Netherlands
 Married: Circa 1679 Monmouth County, East Jersey
 Died: before 25 March 1689 Middletown, Monmouth County, EJ
 Buried: *Grover Burial Ground*, Lincroft, Monmouth County

Father: JAMES GROVER, III (July 1611 - December 1685)
 Mother: REBECCA CHEESEMAN (Circa 1618 – January - October 1686)

Wife: **HANNAH LAWRENCE**

Born: Circa 1660 Middleburgh, New Netherlands
 Died: before December 1701 Monmouth County, EJ
 Buried: *Grover Burial Ground*, Lincroft, Monmouth County

Father: WILLIAM I. LAWRENCE (circa 1630 – 1701/04)
 Mother: HANNAH GROVER (circa 1630 – before 1701)

Issue:	Born:	Where:
1) JAMES GROVER	21 July 1680	Monmouth County, EJ
2) MARY GROVER	1681	Monmouth County, EJ
3) SUSANNA GROVER	about 1684	Monmouth County, EJ
4) ELIZABETH GROVER	7 June 1685	Monmouth County, EJ
5) HANNAH GROVER	about 1687	Middletown, Monmouth County, EJ
6) REBECCA GROVER	about 1688	Monmouth County, EJ
7) DEBORAH GROVER	1689	Monmouth County, EJ

JOSEPH and HANNAH were first cousins as his father and her mother were siblings, both being children of JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR and ANNE EAMES.

In a Will dated 5 March 1683 (*o.s.*) THERLAGH SWYNY (or THURLOW SWINEY) named JOSEPH and HANNAH GROVER to be the executors. He bequeathed his house and land in Middletown to his underage son JOHN SWYNEY but to be held by the executors until he reached the age of 21 and, for 10 years after that, he can only sell or mortgage the property with their consent. They are to use the profits from the births from the existing livestock *to defray the charge of bringing him up and Schooling &c* and that he *should Learn the Carpenters trade and to Read & write if Capeable...* In the event that JOHN died without heirs, the bequest would devolve upon JAMES GROVER, son of JOSEPH and HANNAH GROVER, who were appointed executors of his estate and guardians of his son. JOHN SWYNEY. JOHN, though still a minor, at fourteen years of age could name his choice for guardian which he did when he nominated CAPTAIN SAFETY GROVER, JOSEPH's younger brother. He made provisions for his wife MARY as well. SWINEY is an Irish name appearing in Cohansey (now in Salem County) in 1683 the year the Irish Baptists arrived. Apparently the presence of Baptist congregations at Middletown and Cohansey were the foundation upon which many of the residents of both intermingled quite frequently. On 31 March 1684, JOSEPH made a declaration, affirming the signature to be true, before THOMAS RUDYARD, Deputy-Governor of the Province, who then issued letters of

administration to JOSEPH GROVER for the estate of THORLAGH SWINEY.² The following month funeral expenses of £1 09s 06d were claimed by JOSEPH for 2½ gallons molasses, 05s; 5 gallons rum, 07s 06d; buckwheat, 05s; butter and eggs, 03s; winding sheet, 04s; and for the coffin, 05s.³

On 25 September 1683, in a Court Sessions held in Middletown, JOSEPH GROVER was made Constable and *took Engagement in the Laws* as found in the Court's minutes. He is also found in the records pertaining to the 14 June 1686 settlement of the estate of his father who had passed away in December 1685. He may have been some sort of tradesman as he is referred to as being the *master* of NATHANIEL WOOLCOT in the will of the latter's father SAMUEL, written on 7 May 1687. In this document, SAMUEL exhorts his executors JUDAH ALLEN and THOMAS WEBLY to *take care that my sone NETHANIEL be in no way wronged by his master, JOSEPH GROVER*. The servant code of 1682 and 1683 under the Twenty Four Proprietors specified that one could be apprenticed only until they reached twenty one; *servants* were to receive two suits of apparel, an axe, a hoe and seven bushels of seed corn plus any land that had been agreed upon. Whether or not *servants* and apprentices were compensated in a similar manner is not known. NATHANIEL died in 1691 in Burlington; he may not have reached 21.

Pursuant to the terms of his father's Will, he received one-fifth of the estate that remained under his mother's control when she died in 1686.

JOSEPH and HANNAH were involved in several land transactions over the years; by 1675 he was confirmed as owning 559 acres. The following record reveals an interesting history involving two generations of GROVERS. To begin, PETER TILTON, *late of New Shrewsbury now of Marvel Hill*, bought land from NAPESOM, CHECAUCUS, CAWSEHOE, MENINVEIN + AWAYERS *Five of the Indian Sachems and other Indians of the towne called RAMEZING and RAMEZONK, being the absolute and reall proprietors* of said land. The sale was covered by three contracts signed 23 April, 17 July, and 24 July 1675 at Middletown. JAMES GROVER, SENIOR petitioned GOVERNOR PHILLIP CARTERETT, *Esquire* to have the purchase recognized and surveyed; he agreed and ordered his Surveyors to work. JAMES was the prime mover behind the purchase with PETER being involved with the smallest of the four parcels. PETER refused to agree to accept responsibility for the charges and expenses until knowing what the charges would be and obtaining a guarantee that the survey would not be prejudicial against him by *excluding the small brook or run that runneth into jumping River*. JAMES and PETER must have reached an agreement since Patents were granted in each of their names; JAMES's Patent for 500 acres *at Navesink in such place or places as may not be prejudiciall to the Town Ships* is dated 31 May 1676, and the surveys of 570 acres in four parcels for JAMES's tracts, which included the *Grover's Inheritance* and *Grover's Addition* parcels, were finished 30 June 1676. PETER TILTON's survey probably concerned only the swampland which was the tract that was split between JAMES and PETER. JAMES gave *all the land, meadow, and swamp* to his second son, JOSEPH GROVER by endorsing the back of the Patent. Accordingly, PETER and JOSEPH reached a *full, final, & amicable agreement*: the partition line shall run from *a great Chestnut tree on the top of Marvel Hill* in a straight line to *a great black oak tree* with PETER shall receiving the land between the partition line and the small run containing *three & twenty roods of land*. JOSEPH further agreed to pay to PETER £6 in *goods at reasonable prices* and JOSEPH keeps the moiety of the tract where he now lives. They both signed the agreement on 19 February 1678 which was witnessed and had it endorsed on the back side on 25 September 1684. When they went before the Clerk to have it recorded, PETER confirmed that he had received satisfaction for the £6 which must represent the costs involved in the surveying and recording.⁴ Once this agreement was recorded, JOSEPH then recorded the land transfer his father made to him on 5 December 1685, the 4 tracts with 561

acres: the 330 acre *Grover's Inheritance*, the 200-acre *Grover's Addition*, 25 acres of meadow, and 6 acres of swampland.⁵ The 23 *roods of land* only makes sense if this agreement is related to the just the swampland at the head of Jumping River; JAMES'S parcel was 6 acres while PETER'S at 23 *roods*, was 5.75 acres.

To give you an idea of the complexity of the early deeds, the history of the following purchase is detailed: On 28 March 1688 JOHN THROGMORTON sold $\frac{1}{10}$ of *Crosswicks Purchase* to JOSEPH GROVER for £40. *Crosswicks Purchase* was a 1,200 acre tract of land bought by THROGMORTON and twelve associates in 1685. Prior to 1682 THOMAS RUDYARD, one of the Twelve Proprietors, had owned one full share of which he sold two parts and retained a third part for himself. One portion, accounting for a $\frac{1}{2}$ interest, was bought by ROBERT TURNER of Philadelphia in 1682, making him one of the Twenty-Four Proprietors (actually Twelve Proprietors and Twelve Associates) of East Jersey; this is confirmed in the Patent which describes the tract as *amounting to one full and equal forty-eighth part of the Province of East Jersey* or 2,400 acres.⁶ TURNER then sold $\frac{1}{2}$ of his holdings, 1,200 acres which was a quarter share, to JOHN THROGMORTON and his twelve associates in 1685 all of whom, save one, were original settlers of Middletown. Seven of the thirteen purchasers each paid 10% of the purchase price, owning a 10% interest (or one-tenth of one-quarter of a Propriety) and each the other six purchasers paid 5% of the purchase price, owning a 5% interest (or one-twentieth of one-quarter of a Propriety). JOSEPH'S interest was $\frac{1}{10}$ of $\frac{1}{4}$ part of the Province of East Jersey represented by the 1,200 acre *Crosswicks Purchase*, or $\frac{1}{40}$ share, or 120 acres! The *Purchase* was divided into 48 shares of 25 acres each and sold. THROGMORTON and associates selected land at the headwaters of Crosswicks Creek in Monmouth County and had the tract surveyed. GROVER and THROGMORTON are both designated as being Gentleman, i.e., belonging to the gentry, of Middletown. JOSEPH was one of seven men, another being his brother-in-law BENJAMIN BORDEN, who received a Warrant for 3,500 acres *adjoining the Pines* at Crosswicks on 13 April 1688. Five days later a Survey was filed for 480 acres on the north side of Burlington Path at Crosswicks, followed by a Conveyance on 10 May 1688 from the Proprietors of East Jersey to JOSEPH GROVER for 480 acres on Doctor's Creek at Crosswicks.⁷

JOSEPH GROVER of *Midletoun* wrote his will on 7 December 1688. In this instrument are found the names of his son JAMES and his wife HANNAH; an expected child is mentioned; and he devises some of the 480 acre Crosswicks lot to each of his daughters who numbered five at the time of writing but ended up being six with DEBORAH'S birth. A Survey for 250 acres in two tracts in *Monmouth 100 acres on the Matcheponix River and 150 acres between the branches of Rack Pond from the point of that Neck of Land for the Daughters of J. GROVER, Deceased (MARY, HANNAH, ELIZABETH, SUSANAH, REBECCA, and DEBORAH) "in Right of [1/20] part of a propriety in full of the Second Division"*.⁸ It is not clear why he made no bequests to his son JAMES but he may have had forehand knowledge that JAMES would be receiving lands from JOSEPH'S brother JAMES GROVER upon his death. JOSEPH appointed his wife HANNAH and her brother, WILLIAM LAWRENCE, JUNIOR to act as executors. The will was witnessed by his brother-in-law WILLIAM LAWRENCE, PETER TILTON, DANIEL AP[P]LEGATE, and WILLIAM LEEDS. JOSEPH died within four months as an inventory of the estate of JOSEPH GROVER was filed in Middletown, Monmouth County, NJ on 25 March 1689 and his Will was proved the following day.⁹ The inventory was found in the Monmouth County Deed books: 2 oxen, 6 steers, 11 cows, 7 calves, 7 heifers, 1 bull, 6 yearlings, 9 horses, 27 swine, 17 sheep, 180 bushels of wheat, 4 beds & bedding, a brass pot and other household goods, plow irons, chains, hoes, ax and other tools, 1 cart + vehicles and 2 co-vours, and 1 Negro; done by PETER TILTON, WILLIAM SCOTT, and

SAMUEL FORMAN.¹⁰

HANNAH wrote her Will on 6 May 1690 but the terms are unknown as a copy or extract has yet to be found. It is known that she had land in Crosswicks that was left to some of her children; what is interesting is that, at the time she wrote her Will, she hadn't yet bought the land.

HANNAH bought an additional 150 acres *on Doctor's Creek* in Crosswicks that was northeast of her husband's property there. This was purchased from JAMES JOHNSTON, probably a relative of her son-in-law CAPTAIN DAVID JOHNSTON, on 16 October 1690.¹¹ In the Will of her daughter MARY JOHNSTON this land is described as being *on the east side* of property already owned by her husband JOSEPH. Also in 1690, 60 acres of meadow was received by JOSEPH's estate *in right of 1/20 part of a proprietie at Barnegate from South side of Coy Creek; and by the Bay granted in right of 1/20 part of a proprietie* as cited later. JOSEPH must have accounted for this in his Will as this went to his daughter HANNAH rather than becoming part of the property that was divided between the six daughters.

HANNAH married a second time in Middletown on 9 January 1695 to NATHANIEL LEONARD, son of HENRY LEONARD. HENRY LEONARD built the iron mills for her grandfather JAMES GROVER and NATHANIEL may have been his son, or perhaps a grandson. The marriage was officiated by REVEREND TIMOTHY JOHNES, DD, the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown. JOHNES officiated for marriages at both the Presbyterian and the Baptist churches in Morristown.¹² Curiously, this marriage is said to have been performed by Peter Tilton, Justice on the same date. Some name three sons from this marriage: JOHN, THOMAS (1708) and (LIEUTENANT) NATHANIEL LEONARD (1712). These are more likely the children of NATHANIEL and ANNE LEONARD of Trenton. Soon afterwards the Court of sessions for Monmouth County allowed a petition submitted by *the nearest relations to JOSEPH GROVER and HANAH LEONARD late Wife of the said JOSEPH GROVER deceased* requesting that oversight of their children be granted to the children's grandfather WILLIAM LAWRENCE SENIOR. The petitioners were JAMES GROVER, SENIOR; CAPTAIN SAFETY GROVER; WILLIAM LAWRENCE, SENIOR, and WILLIAM LAWRENCE, JUNIOR and it was so ordered by the Court on 26 March 1695. On the same date *JAMES GROVER, son of the afforesaid JOSEPH GROVER Late Deceased* requested his appointed guardians be his *Grandfather WILLIAM LAWRENCE, SENIR* and *Unckle WILLIAM LAWRENCE, JUNIR* which was so ordered. This was followed by the request of *MARY GROVER, daughter of the afforesaid JOSEPH GROVER & hanah his late wife; lately Deceased* to have her *Grandfather WILLIAM LAWRENCE, SENIR* appointed as her guardian; this to was so ordered.¹³ The legalities involved must have been so as to require this legal step to protect one or more of the parties involved. The law allowed for children once the age of 14 is reached to self nominate their guardians and this is where we find indications of their years of birth with MARY and JAMES born before 1682 and the rest in 1682 or later.

On 22 December 1700, there appears a confirmation *in full of the second dividend* to MARY, HANNAH, ELIZABETH, REBECCA, SUSANNA, and DEBORAH, daughters of JOSEPH GROVER, deceased, each holding $\frac{1}{20}$ of the $\frac{1}{24}$ share of the Province (note that this interest is exactly one-half of the interest represented by the Crosswicks Purchase, ergo, we can assume that he owned 500 acres elsewhere when he died): 100 acres near Matcheponix River (a branch of the Raritan River), adjoining ROBERT BARCLAY's land and 150 acres between *the branches of Rock (or Rack) Pond* (this may be the same as Wrack or Wreck Pond whose north branch runs into the Atlantic between Asbury Park and Manasquan).¹⁴ This second dividend represented the increased value of the shares of the Province owned by their father. That this dividend went to

the daughters and not his widow possibly indicates that HANNAH had died however inheritance law may have specified that it went to his children rather than a widow that had remarried.

HANNAH had definitely died by December 1701, probably in Monmouth County, NJ. In that month HANNAH's father WILLIAM LAWRENCE wrote his Will in which he made bequests to HANNAH's children: a heifer to each of HANNAH's daughters SUSANNA, ELIZABETH, MARY, HANNAH and REBECCA; JAMES received a $\frac{1}{7}$ share of the Barnegat Bay land and DEBORAH received a cow plus 30 acres of land on the Hopp River located next to the 40 acres where his widow, HANNAH (LAWRENCE) GROVER, lived; *but none to his daughter HANNAH.* ?

Issue:

- 1) JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR: his year of birth has been given as 1683 and 1686 elsewhere but this can not be correct as the will of THURLOW SWINY which is dated 25 March 1684, mentions JAMES by name and he reached the age of 14 before March 1695 when he named his choice of guardian in Court. His uncle of the same name is also found as JAMES GROVER, JUNIOR in early property records; the uncle adopted the use of *SENIOR* after JAMES III died in 1685 (at least one grandson of JAMES III is also found as JAMES GROVER JUNIOR in property records). JAMES married MARY TILTON (Born 21 October 1686, daughter of JOHN TILTON and REBECCA TERRY). On 15 September 1708 JAMES, *son and heir of JOSEPH GROVER*, sold two parcels his sister DEBORAH and her husband THOMAS SHEPHERD. The first tract was, they said, *Grover's Inheritance*. THOMAS and DEBORAH paid £180 for a triangular parcel that ran along Ramanesse Brook (Hopp River) which was *valued to contain with ye swamp and bogish meadows* 200-acres. The triangular tract was *Grover's Addition* not *Grover's Inheritance*. The second parcel was 4 acres of meadow from his *upper piece of the meadow lying by the Swimming River*. On that same date, JAMES bought shares in property inherited from their parents from his sister DEBORAH and her husband THOMAS SHEPHERD for £165; or, at the least, he thought he bought the shares. The five properties in which a one-sixth part was transferred were named as follows: 480 acres at Crosswicks, 100 acres on Machiponicks River, 150 acres at Rack Pond, 60 acres at Barnegat, and 150 acres at Crosswicks bought by their mother; also included was the one-sixth share of any property that will come to his sister by virtue of owning a share in a Propriety.¹⁵ Despite that being the description as found in the deed, it is not correct. The 480-acre and 150-acre tracts in Crosswicks were held separate from the general one-sixth share clause and the 60 acres in Barnegat was left in whole to his sister HANNAH. This correction is reflected by his *sale*, on 4 June 1711, of the one-sixth share of the 480 and 150-acre Crosswicks tracts, and the one-sixth share in the 150-acre Rack Pond tract to his brother-in-law DAVID JOHNSTON for £60.¹⁶ This deed was, effectively, cancelling that of the 1708 one as he gave up all claims on these properties and he was being reimbursed some of the money he had paid to his sister DEBORAH. Two months later his sister DEBORAH sells her one-sixth share in the Crosswicks Creek tracts, the same being sold in the 1708 deed to JAMES, to DAVID JOHNSTON. These sales may seem confusing and raise suspicions but it was a way to make clear that all claim to this one-sixth share ended up in the right hands; the incorrectly drawn up deed of 1708 had to be rectified and be done securely to avoid some heir in the future initiating a legal challenge to ownership. On 27 April 1713 JAMES bought the *full and equal undivided Third part* share owned in any future right of property by virtue of the inherited Propriety held by ELIZABETH GROVER and MARY GROVER, through her husband DAVID JOHNSTON, for £6.¹⁷ JAMES received a 600 acre

tract of land from his uncle JAMES GROVER, who no longer appended JUNIOR to his name, upon the latter's death in 1715. It may be due to this uncle that JAMES is sometimes found styled as the "3rd" despite being the son of JOSEPH (or the fact that *JAMES GROVER JUNIOR* was used by JAMES GROVER, the son of SAFETY GROVER, another grandson of JAMES SENIOR (III). The 1716 Inventory of the merchant JOHN BOWNE's estate includes a mortgage owed by JAMES GROVER in the amount of £61 01s; it's not certain if this is the same person.¹⁸ JAMES filed a challenge against his sisters who claimed full ownership of their father's Crosswicks lot in Monmouth County Court of Common Pleas, probably based on the accepted practice that all land went to the eldest son who was then responsible for dividing it among the heirs. He was unsuccessful as his sisters clearly owned the land as so stipulated in their father's Will. On 2 January 1720 JAMES paid £41 for a 19.6-acre tract of land in Crosswicks from JOHN ASHTON.¹⁹ This tract adjoined to the north the one owned by his sister REBECCA which appears in the next deed here. On the last day of 1720 JAMES GROVER, the heir-at-law of his sister REBECCA, deceased, received by a quit-claim deed signed by JOHN BOWNE, the heir-at-law and brother of REBECCA's first husband WILLIAM BOWNE, one half of their Crosswicks property which contained 240 acres north of the Burlington Path (see below). JAMES wrote his Will 19 July 1749 which was proved 1 January 1753 giving a 1752 year of death. Estate included his *home farm on Fulling Brook; two lots near Jumping Brook; two cedar swamps, called the Round and Asher Cleayton's Swamp* and four doubloons valued at £ 24.5; five white servants *time yet to come* valued at £58; a negro man valued at £20 and various other belongings bringing the total value of the estate to £1176 16s 7p. In the Will he lists four children.²⁰

- a) JAMES GROVER: he may have been the "JUNIOR" found in property records as the grandson of JAMES SENIOR (III). (see above)
 - b) SILVANUS GROVER: appears to have received land from his Aunt DEBORAH SHEPHERD in Nut Swamp as recorded on 25 December 1759.²¹
 - c) HANNAH GROVER
 - d) REBECCA GROVER
- 2) MARY GROVER: born before 1682, died before May 1733; married CAPTAIN DAVID JOHNSTON, a blacksmith by trade. On 4 June 1711 DAVID JOHNSTON bought from his brother-in-law JAMES the one-sixth share of the 480 and 150 acre Crosswicks tracts, and the one-sixth share in the 150 acre Rack Pond tract for £60 (see above). On 22 August 1711 CAPTAIN JOHNSTON purchased the one-sixth share held by his sister-in-law ELIZABETH GROVER (see below).²² With this purchase DAVID and MARY had three of the one-sixth shares, or one half of the two Crosswicks tracts. She and her husband sold all future rights to any property she had inherited from both parents to her brother JAMES on 27 April 1713 (see above). MARY *of Freehold* wrote her Will on 8 August 1730. In it she makes one bequest, that being to her son, and executor, JAMES JOHNSTON, the *lands at Crosswicks, which were bequeathed to testatrix by her parents, JOSEPH and HANNAH GROVER by wills dated December 7, 1688 and May 8, 1690, respectively. Above lands, purchased by testatrix's mother from JAMES JOHNSTON, October 16, 1690, on east side of testatrix's husbands' land on Doctor's Creek*. Witnesses were WILLIAM KINNAN, JAMES POULLOW and RICHARD DOUBLASS. She died before 15 March 1733 for, on that date, her husband DAVID signed a statement that he gave his wife, since deceased, *full liberty to make said Will* that was witnessed by WILLIAM KINNAN and JAMES POULLOW. The Will was proved 7 May that same year.²³ That same month he became one of the three executors for his brother WILLIAM's

estate as well when his will was proved.²⁴ DAVID JOHNSTON, of Upper Freehold, wrote his Will on 3 July 1738 which was proved on 12 October that same year. In it he mentions his wife MARY and all five children. Executors were his son JAMES, and JAMES GROVER of Middletown, probably his brother-in-law.²⁵ Their children should have received a portion of the land owned due to owning the Propriety shares outside of the two Crosswicks tracts and the 60 acre tract at Barnegat which went to HANNAH, i.e. the one-sixth of the 100 acres on Machiponicks River and the 150 acres at Rack Pond and any other land due from being a share holder.

- a) DAVID JOHNSTON: named as their eldest son in fathers Will, was in Scotland when his father wrote that Will in 1738.
 - b) JOHN JOHNSTON: is styled as the *eldest son* of DAVID and MARY when he sells *the share* of land owned by his mother to THOMAS HERBERT (without specifying *Junior* or *Senior*) on the same date that the five $\frac{1}{6}$ shares – one from JOHN, three from brother JAMES, and the one from his AUNT REBECCA via her son JAMES BOWNE to WILLIAM KINNAN – of the two Crosswicks tracts on Doctors Creek are transferred from THOMAS HERBERT (SENIOR) to THOMAS HERBERT (JUNIOR). This record may indicate that his older brother DAVID had died by this time.
 - c) HANNAH JOHNSTON:
 - d) MARY JOHNSTON:
 - e) JAMES JOHNSTON: inherits the three $\frac{1}{6}$ shares in the 480 acre and 150 acre tracts at Crosswicks and sells them to THOMAS HERBERT SENIOR who then sells the 4 to THOMAS HERBERT JUNIOR who has also purchased the share once owned by AUNT REBECCA BOWNE.
- 3) SUSANNA GROVER: in 1717 SUSANNA married her cousin and former brother-in-law, JOSEPH BORDEN. He was born 12 May 1687 in Monmouth County, NJ; the son of BENJAMIN BORDEN and ABIGAIL GROVER. SUSANNAH died 11 March 1744 in Bordentown, Burlington County, NJ. In 1750 JOSEPH married a third time, to ELIZABETH PANCOAST. JOSEPH died in Bordentown on 22 September 1765 and was buried in *Old Borden Cemetery*, now part of *Christ Church Episcopal Cemetery*, in Bordentown.
- 4) ELIZABETH GROVER: born 7 June 1685, died 18 January 1763. On 22 August 1711 ELIZABETH, a single woman of Middletown Township, sold her $\frac{1}{6}$ share of the two Doctors Creek tracts bequeathed to her by her parents to her brother-in-law CAPTAIN DAVID JOHNSTON of Freehold Township, blacksmith, for £62.²⁶ On the 14th of September in 1711 JOHN BOWNE, the Middletown merchant, was bound to ELIZABETH GROVER, a *maiden* from Middletown, when he signed a Bond agreement in the amount of £134 12s 3d *Current money of New York, silver*, which remained in force until the terms of repayment were met. Those terms were on or before 14 September 1712, JOHN BOWNE, the *bounder*, will pay the amount of £67 6s 3d to ELIZABETH GROVER. JOHN BOWNE was the brother of WILLIAM BOWNE who died in 1706; he was the husband of ELIZABETH'S sister REBECCA. While there is no interest charged or other penalties for non-payment as such, the amounts in the agreement offer a clue. The repayment amount of £67 is equal to the loaned amount plus interest and the penalty for failing to honor the debt is being held to pay twice that amount, or £134. The reason for the Bond is not known; that ELIZABETH would loan money to a successful merchant is puzzling; perhaps it was a type of investing as hundreds of people were indebted to him for several types of credit lines and he needed to get the money from somewhere. ELIZABETH sold the one-sixth right to any future property due as a result of the Propriety

share owned by her father and inherited from either parent to her brother JAMES on 27 April 1713 (see above). The 1715 Inventory for *ELIZABETH BOWN, widow and relict of CAPTAIN ANDREW BOWNE* values a chest of drawers at £3 and states it was given to ELIZABETH GROVER; whether or not this is the same person is not known.²⁷ ELIZABETH GROVER paid £279 on 8 October 1715 to CAPTAIN JOHN BOWNE, merchant of Middletown, for two tracts of land. One in Middletown Township contained 110 acres, *after allowance for Barrens, Highways, &c* while the other was in Freehold Township and was currently occupied by JOHN HAMTON. It was south of Burlington Path and west of *Passequenocqua/Pasquanaqua Brook*; no acreage is specified.²⁸ The waterway has not been identified but it was associated with a meadow of the same name. Earlier deeds for this same tract mention *Spotswood Middle Branch* which crossed Main Street, as the Burlington Path was called as it went through the town of Freehold, meaning that this tract was somewhere in the southwest part of town. This JOHN HAMTON had sold land two decades earlier along Manasquan Brook, north of Burlington Path to BENJAMIN BORDEN, the father-in-law of her sister SUSANNA. ELIZABETH marries GERSHON STILLWELL and lived for a time at Moreland Manor, Philadelphia County, PA. Both buried *Fairview Cemetery*, Middletown, NJ.

- 5) HANNAH GROVER: married JAMES SEABROOK. A Warrant dated 20 May 1690, supplemented by a Survey for 60 acres at *Barnegate from South side of Coy Creek; and by the Bay granted in right of 1/20 part of a proprietie* is recorded from her father.²⁹ On 8 July 1717 a Survey for 65.5 acres in *Monmouth at Compton Creek and JOHN PERES Creek was recorded for JAMES SEABROOK as part of TURNER'S propriety sold by JAMES GROVER, 125 acres which fell to the 6 daughters of JOSEPH GROVER one of which JAMES SEABROOK married and JAMES GROVER has bought 3 shares of the other sisters*.³⁰ She died about 1745 in Middletown.
- 6) REBECCA GROVER: married (1) WILLIAM BOWNE in 1704; he was the son of JAMES BOWNE and had been born in Salem, Massachusetts in 1636; he died in 1706; a Will bearing his name and dated 27 April 1706 mentions his wife by name and an expected child as being the sole heirs. It states he was a mariner and owned property at Crosswicks; though it was not proved until 14 March 1717, an Inventory bearing the same name *of Middletown* was completed on 22 July 1707 which possibly corroborates a 1706 death.
 - a) HANNAH BOWNE: born c1705 and died before 1720.

REBECCA married (2) JOSEPH BORDEN, her first cousin. They had 3 children. JOSEPH founded Bordentown and was the son of BENJAMIN BORDEN and ABIGAIL GROVER. REBECCA died before 1717. JOSEPH then married REBECCA'S sister SUSANNA.

On 30 December 1720 JOHN BOWNE of Middletown signed a quit-claim deed in favor of JAMES GROVER for 240 acres in Crosswicks. JOHN BOWNE is WILLIAM'S brother and has become his heir-at-law since the death of both REBECCA and HANNAH BOWNE. He and JAMES are settling the distribution of their property in Crosswicks with JAMES GROVER, REBECCA'S eldest brother, being the heir-at-law of REBECCA. That property was purchased by WILLIAM BOWNE in 1688 and, at the time of sale and after deducting allowances for the *great crook and Elbors* made by the Burlington Path and *the Barrens and Highways*, contained 480 acres on the north side of the Burlington Path. The two men agreed to each take half, or 240 acres, with JAMES GROVER taking the most northerly half and JOHN BOWNE the southerly.³¹ This was a well-planned decision as JAMES had purchased the tract of land adjoin this one to the north almost a year earlier (see above).

- 7) **DEBORAH GROVER:** her share of parent's two Crosswicks tracts purchased by brother-in-law **DAVID JOHNSTON**. In her father's Will of 1701, she received a 30-acre tract on the Hopp or Mill River. She married **THOMAS SHEPHERD** around 1705. Their story is continued in a separate section.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ The information contained herein is based on research performed by other genealogists and posted on the internet. None of the presented information has been verified by this author unless stated or referenced. Land transactions citations are from New Jersey Department of State Non-Governmental Records – East and West Jersey Proprietors database: <http://www.nj.gov/state/archives/catppropri.html>
- ² Two citations found in connection with Swiny's estate are NJA[1], 23, 451; and East Jersey Book of Deeds, Volume A, page 66; cited in NJA[1], 21, 56. Also: John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume VI: Unrecorded Wills and Inventories Monmouth County New Jersey (reprint Shrewsbury Historical Society; 1975) p.22. Digital copy available through FamilySearch.com.
- ³ Edwin Salter, A History of Monmouth and Ocean Counties, (Bayonne, NJ: F. Gardner & Son, Publishers; 1890) page lvii.
- ⁴ Monmouth County Deeds, Book B, page 108, recorded 25 September 1684 (?); and General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997, Liber II, Part 2, Folios 25, 28.
- ⁵ Board of Proprietors of the Province of East Jersey, Deeds, Book 3, page 124; cited in NJA[1], 21, 102.
- ⁶ Citation in extract is "D.B. 3, 348, Trenton deeds; cited by Roberts, 1955, 170". Further research is needed to obtain the correct citation which, logically, would be Monmouth County, Book of Deeds or East Jersey Book of Deeds, Volume 3, page 348. Also cited as: Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, B (EJ), Folio 143.
- ⁷ Much of this and subsequent discussion involving this tract comes from General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: L (EJ), Folio 194; O (EJ), Folio 4; and Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, C, Folio 89; and East New Jersey Land Records, Book G2, page 304 and other entries; found in Richard S. Hutchinson, East New Jersey Land Records, 1747 – 1747 (Books G2 and H2) (Lewis, DE: Colonial Roots, 2005) page 41.
- ⁸ General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997: O (EJ), Folio 197.
- ⁹ Citation in extract: NJA[1], 21, 168; another reference found for this Will is "East Jersey Deeds, Liber D, pages 88, 91."
- ¹⁰ Monmouth County Deeds, Book B, page 170.
- ¹¹ Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, D (EJ), Folio 276; G (EJ), Folio 319; and General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997, O (EJ), Folio 200. See also Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, B-2, Folio 295.
- ¹² History of the First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, NJ (1880) "A Register of my Marriages with ye time, names of ye Persons & their Places of abode (commencing 9 March 1743)" Timothy Johnes. For alternate minister see *Manuscripts of Charles R. Hutchinson, 1838-1927*, Book 4, p. 165. Available on LDS Microfilm # 0946267.
- ¹³ John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume III (New York; 1914) p.262. Digital copy available through FamilySearch.com.

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- ¹⁴ Citation in extract: East Jersey Book of Deeds, Volume G, page 240; cited in NJA[1], 21, 322. Also cited as: Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856, G, Folio 240.
- ¹⁵ Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 248, recorded 29 September 1716; Book E, p. 254, recorded 29 September 1716.
- ¹⁶ Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 33, recorded 26 August 1716.
- ¹⁷ Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 256, recorded 29 September 1716.
- ¹⁸ *op.cit.* Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume IV, p.53.
- ¹⁹ Monmouth County Deeds, Book G, p. 57, *entered 10 February 1721*, recorded 30 November 1721.
- ²⁰ Monmouth County Wills, Liber F, page 90. Extract available online at Find A Grave, database and images (<https://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 31 July 2018), memorial page for Joseph Grover (1656–25 Mar 1689), Find A Grave Memorial no. 47199535, citing Grover Burial Ground, Lincroft, Monmouth County, New Jersey, USA ; Maintained by Sue McDuffe:) (contributor 47122067) .
- ²¹ Department of State Secretary of State's Office Deeds, Surveys and Commissions, ca. 1650-1856: A-3, Folio 455.
- ²² Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 34, recorded 26 August 1714.
- ²³ Monmouth County Wills, Liber D, page 292 (and) New Jersey Colonial Documents, Wills 1730 -1750, 30:2, 270.
- ²⁴ John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume VI: Unrecorded Wills and Inventories Monmouth County New Jersey (reprint Shrewsbury Historical Society; 1975) p.108. Digital copy available through FamilySeach.com.
- ²⁵ Monmouth County Wills, Liber C, page 214.
- ²⁶ Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 34, recorded 26 August 1714.
- ²⁷ *op.cit.* Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Volume IV, p.58.
- ²⁸ Monmouth County Deeds, Book E, p. 210, recorded 15 June 1716.
- ²⁹ General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997, O (EJ), Folio 79. See also Folio 102.
- ³⁰ General Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey, Surveys and Warrants, 1675-1997, Liber II, Part 2, Folio 182.
- ³¹ Monmouth County Deeds, Book G, p. 55, recorded 30 November 1721.